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Everything for Everybody at Prices
That Defy Competition
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GENERAL STATE INTEREST

Progress in Various Commercial
Lines Goes Forward.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 2, 1914. —
(Special).—Certainly Oregon has no
reason to be dissatisfied with the
progress being made in populating
the state, since the report recently
issued by the State Labor Commis-
sioner, at Salem, indicates that there
are now 122,822 more residents in
Oregon than when the 1910 census
was compiled. Four years ago there
were 672,765 people in the state,
as compared with 795,587 at this
time. The report was compiled from
the enrollment and attendance fig-
ures of the school department in
each county.

The report indicates that the
growth in population is somewhat
"patchy" throughout the state, some
counties having made remarkable
advances while others have grown
but little, while in several instances
there appears to have been a loss.
Multnomah County shows the largest
gain, 50,922, while Hood River,
Josephine, Morrow and Sherman
counties show a population slightly
smaller than four years ago.

Bi-Products of Fruit.

At the recent Fruit Growers' con-
ference in Spokane, a committee was
appointed for the purpose of work-
ing out the solution of the by-
products problem. If possible, effect a
"consolidation" of the various selling
agencies. A meeting of this com-
mittee will be held at North Yakima
on December 5. At that time it is
expected that a plan will be worked
out whereby an advisory board of
canning and evaporating experts, to-
gether with practical business men
can be created, the services of this
board to be available to all fruit
districts calling for it. In this man-
ner it is expected to furnish to each
district full and reliable information
and advice, thereby saving funds
which would otherwise be spent in
experimenting. Providing for uni-
form inspection and a central selling
agency will be taken up later.

Sugar Beet Culture.

The farmers of Polk County are
becoming interested in a proposition
to raise sugar beets. A meeting was
held at Independence a few days ago
at which the matter was discussed
with representatives of the beet sug-
ar manufacturers, and it is expected
that a considerable acreage will be
devoted to beets the coming year.
The bottom lands are well adapted
to this crop and the sugar men are
convinced the industry can be made
profitable to the farmers.

Railroad Material For Export.

Lumbermen of the Pacific North-
west have been asked to bid on rail-
road ties for the Orient aggregating
9,000,000 feet, and with orders for
the same material coming from Eu-
rope, it is expected the millmen of
this territory will be right in line for
their share of the anticipated good
times.

ABUSES OF TAXATION

Average Taxpayer Is Gen- erally Too Indifferent.

Much Effectual Work Could be Done
by Consultation With the
County Court.

(The Tax Liberator.)

It is a notorious fact that with but
one or two exceptions, taxes are very
much higher in every county in the
state than they should be, or than
they would be if the taxpayers would
concern themselves in the subject, in
the proper manner at the proper
time.

The Tax Liberator has pledged it-
self to the cause of lower taxes. The
most it can do, however, is to point
out the abuses in our present system
and tell its readers how to attack
those abuses; instruct the taxpayer
as to his or her prerogative under
our present tax laws, and to give
clear and concise articles that ex-
plain certain tax laws which have
been found effective in our states
and which are, in his opinion, worthy
of adoption in Oregon.

The subject of abuse in our pre-
sent system is one of unquestioned
greatness, and will merit a great
deal of consideration and argument.

The purpose of this article is to
tell you how it lies within your own
power, through taking advantage of
our present tax laws, to control, to a
very marked degree, the expenditure
of your tax money this very year, and
to positively secure a reduction in
the amount of your next tax levy.

Do you want your taxes to be de-
creased?

Then concern yourself in your
county budget, which is now being
prepared by your County Court. It
does not do one bit of good to com-
plain about a high levy after that
levy is made, and yet that is the only
time that you have been urging your
objections.

Whether you know it or not, you
have a voice in the matter of prepar-
ing your county's expenditures be-
fore, not after, the money is collect-
ed. And if certain expenditures are
contemplated by the County Court
which, in your opinion, should not be
made or considered, it is not only
within your power to interfere on
behalf of yourself and the other tax-
payers of your county, but it is en-
tirely a matter of duty on your part
according to the tax laws of the
state.

No tax can be levied, proposed or
adopted, for any county, unless an
estimate shall have first been made
of the amount of money proposed to
be raised by taxation for the ensuing
year, and such estimate published,
and opportunity for a full and com-
plete discussion thereof allowed.
There! you have been reading law
—Oregon law—almost without realiz-
ing it, chances are. But it is law
just the same, and it was adopted for
your protection and benefit. It is a
part of Section 1, Chapter 234, of the
general laws of Oregon, and in Sec-
tion 2, it says that the estimates, to-
gether with the notice of the time
and place at which such estimates
may be discussed with the County
Court, shall be published at least
twice prior to the time appointed for
such proposed meeting in the official
county newspaper. So you see the
law invites you to be present for a
complete discussion, and then it pro-
vides for a second consecutive invita-
tion in your newspaper. And that is
not all, for it further provides that
there shall be published an itemized
statement allowing, under separate
heads, the amount required for each
department of the county govern-
ment, and that such a statement
shall contain full and complete dis-
closure of the contemplated expendi-
ture.

And there you are. Not only are
you invited twice to participate in a
complete discussion of the antici-
pated expenditures of your money,
but you are actually sought out and
presented with—through your news-
paper—an itemized and detailed ac-
count of your every dollar that your
county court expects to spend.

Now will you be good and come to
the meeting? Yes, of course, you
will—perhaps, if you do not forget
it, or if you do not have to feed the
cat or paint the new chicken coop,
or do any one of perhaps a half dozen
or more equally important and ab-
sorbing chores. Well, the law cer-
tainly puts it equally up to you, and
if you are really sincere in your de-
termination to do your duty as a
citizen, and to help in every way you
can to secure better and more eco-
nomical government; if you believe
your taxes are higher than they
should be for the benefits you re-
ceive; if you realize that indifference,
slothfulness and disinterestedness
on your part only encourage
extravagance, waste and graft on the
part of public officials, why then, of
course, you will do what little you

can—certainly all the law permits
you to do—in the matter of being
present at the very next meeting to
discuss the county budget.

Taxes are high—they are too high
—and you are to blame because you
do not do anything to make them
lower. The members of your County
Court are your employees. You know
that, of course. Yes, but you do not
treat them as though they were. You
may have every reason to believe
in them implicitly—in their ability
and integrity. And they may be the
best citizens in your county, too, but
that does not alter the fact that they
are working for you. Just suppose
you were in the banking business.
Would you hire enough men to run
your bank, and then go about some-
other business, never go to the bank,
pay but little, if any attention to the
statements they issued from time to
time and never even attend a direc-
tors' meeting? Certainly not. But
your County Court is hired by you
to handle your tax money and the
only time you have been showing any
concern over the way they are con-
ducting your affairs is when you get
your tax statements—months after
the budget has been prepared. Per-
haps you then have the courage to
remark, "Isn't it awful the way taxes
are increasing?" And then you pay
your assessment, wait until your next
annual statement is received and
kick again. But you never attend
the "directors meeting," the meet-
ing arranged for your very presence
before the County Court arranged to
receive your ideas, your scrutiny,
your objections, your suggestions!

Perhaps you never before realized
that your presence was requested
and desired. The chances are very
strong that you did not—but you do
realize it now and right now is the
time to make up your mind that the
next meeting and the next and the
next will be honored with a call from
you.

The County Court is now preparing
the 1915 budget. About December
10th it will be advertised in your
official county paper and in about a
week or ten days thereafter it will
be advertised again. Look for it.
Go over each item carefully and
studiously. Talk about it with your
friends and neighbors. Consider the
plans and purposes of the County
Court as herein represented. Dis-
cuss the whole matter with your
banker and your merchants and
then be prepared to talk and argue
intelligently on every point that con-
cerns you or appears to you as need-
ing attention.

Then go to the meeting prepared
to have your say and say it. When
you leave, you have every reason
to know the whys and wherefores of
every dollar of proposed expenditure.
You will know that you have had a
voice in the collection and distribu-
tion of your tax money and ten
chances to one, will have the satisfac-
tion of having been instrumental
in curtailing certain wasteful or ex-
travagant features of the budget, and
your taxes reduced from what they
would have been had you stayed
away as you are in the habit of doing
and left the matter entirely in the
hands of the County Court who, after
all, belong to the human family,
whose nature is such that its indi-
viduals, as a rule, who, ambitious to
make a showing, are often inclined to
spend more money than those whose
money it is would readily approve.

Will you be there?

AMERICA'S WAR POSITION

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 1.—That
general disarmament and universal
peace will not follow the European
war and that the United States may
have trouble with the winner were
predictions made by George B. Mc-
Clellan, ex-Mayor of New York and
now professor of economic history in
Princeton University, in an address
which he delivered here tonight.

"No matter who wins," said Pro-
fessor McClellan, "it is almost cer-
tain that at some far distant date we
shall be confronted with the alterna-
tive either of abandoning the Monroe
Doctrine or fighting to maintain it.
We have made it a great national
principle, a question of National hon-
or, so that if we abandon it we must
concede that we are not strong
enough to maintain it, that we are
only a secondclass power, at the
mercy of all the swaggering bullies
of the earth. If we fight for it in our
present unprepared condition, there
can be but one outcome. A triumph-
phant and victorious Germany would
have little to fear from us, and, while
we might possibly in the end be able
to check Japan by herself, we could
scarcely hope to do so if she received
help."

The cause of war, according to
Professor McClellan, is the spirit of
nationality which has seized all of
Europe and the present war cannot
be charged against any one man or
group of men.

Professor McClellan made a strong
plea that Americans awake to their
present condition of unpreparedness
and that immediate steps be taken
to build up a National defense.

WEALTH AND ABILITY

America's Position In Rela- tion to Trade Exchange.

Mineral Fuel Important Contributing
Asset to Nation's Com-
mercial Power.

Four constituents enter into the
reaction that we term industry. Two
of these, brain and brawn, are or-
ganic compounds and two are per-
haps to be regarded as in-organic—
money and material. None of these
components is wanting here in the
United States and in fact their abun-
dantly affords the best reason for an
optimistic outlook upon the present
industrial situation. Of these four
constituents, labor and capital and
brains are all more easily transported
generally than the crude materials
upon large tonnage of which the in-
dustry must depend. Thus, cheap
coal attracts manufacturers just as
cheap land attracts farmers.

With distribution of raw material
is linked the influence of markets
upon the location of industry. The
development of transportation sys-
tems makes the problem of markets
a most complex one. The industrial
independence of the small commu-
nity of a century ago has given way to
the system under which your dinner
table may represent the tribute
from several continents. Even in
a country so diversified as ours in
its natural bounties domestic produc-
tion of everything consumed is not
desirable nor profitable. Exchange of
commodities with foreign countries
becomes necessary, so it follows that
industrial independence is the goal
toward which a nation should face,
but not a goal which it should have
either the intention or desire to
attain.

To increase industrial prosperity
this country needs to export finished
rather than crude products and to
import raw material rather than
manufactures. It is the product of
American labor rather than the
bounty of our natural resources that
preferably should go into the world's
markets. As the engineers of Amer-
ica study this matter of expansion
of manufacturing, it becomes evident
that the distribution of raw material
and of power is the key to industrial
opportunities.

Petroleum and natural gas in their
distribution in some degrees supple-
ment coal. Thus, the largest oil
field both in present production and
probable reserve is in California, a
state with only negligible coal re-
sources. Taken together, these min-
eral fuels constitute a national asset
comparable with the soil resources of
this country, but the larger part of
the value of the natural gas, petro-
leum, and coal to the nation is in
their relation to manufacturers.

The wide distribution of ores of
the principal metals sufficiently rich
and extensive to be mined in large
quantities means that the metallur-
gical industry is important on both
the Pacific and the Atlantic sea-
board, in most of the Rocky Moun-
tain States as well as in several of
the Middle States. Even in the two
metals which at once suggest to us
centralization—copper and steel—
there is wide spread production. In
the mining of copper last year 23
states furnished iron ores to the fur-
naces of the country.

The raw material resources of this
country are so widely distributed
that industry has been developing at
this rapid pace at many points. The
tendency is away from geographic
centralization of industry rather
than toward it. A few opportunities
for expansion need only to be sug-
gested; the South with its happy
combination of coal and iron-ore in
the same districts makes pig-iron
production possible at minimum
cost; the West with its hydro-electric
possibilities available as a source of
relatively cheap power for chemical
and metallurgical industries; the
Rocky Mountain region with its vast
untapped sources of sulphuric acid
and equally great unmined stores of
phosphate rock.

The ingredients necessary for pro-
ducing prosperity appear at hand.
The new financial system already
promises more mobile credits. A
more sympathetic attitude of the pub-
lic toward big industrial operations
is indicated. The efficiency of Amer-
ican labor and American engineering
was never questioned.

In any estimate of American abili-
ty to make the most of the present
opportunities for industrial expan-
sion, no better measure of the in-
ventive genius of this country can
perhaps be found than in a moment's
review of what is making the Euro-
pean war so terrible. Strictly neu-
tral may we be, yet from the heights
above to the depths below we find
American inventions "at the front"
—the aeroplane, the machine rifle
and machine gun, the barbed wire,
and the submarine and its torpedo,

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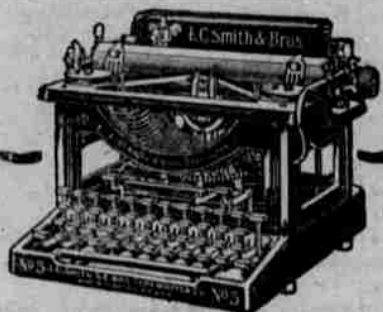
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Civil Service	Architect
Chemist	Structural Engineer
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